

A SPANISH ULTIMATUM

Fair Warning to the United States.

General Weyler's Policy Approved.

President McKinley's Recent Message to Congress Objectionable to the Spaniards.

HAVANA, Cuba, December 21.—In a speech today Senator Gorman, president of congress, touched upon the patriotic sentiments of the Spanish people, and referring to President McKinley's recent message to congress, he protested against it, alleging that it was offensive to Spain, to General Weyler and the Spanish army. He also held that it indicated probable early intervention, a "warning to a most haughty nation which will not permit such humiliation."

Senator Gorman succeeded in uniting the opposing factions in the party, thus avoiding the disruption which had been encouraged by the reformists.

Senator Gorman submitted a motion, which was unanimously approved, expressing confidence in President Aguinaldo and the executive committee, and confirming the political platform of the party, which is essentially Spanish and centralist, as against home rule and withdrawal from political struggles, while authorizing the executive committee to determine when the condition of the country and general-in-chief demand the party's services.

The executive committee was authorized to send a cable to General Weyler, the substance of which was that at a mass meeting of the party his excellency was endorsed and the party assured the General he had its support.

HAVANA, December 21.—It was announced from the palace today that during the past ten days the insurgents have lost 303 men killed and that, in addition, the Spanish troops have captured seventeen prisoners and that sixty-nine armed insurgents have surrendered. The troops, it is further announced, have captured ninety-five islands of firearms during this time. Among the killed, the statement continues, are three insurgent leaders and three officers of the insurgent forces. The Spanish troops, during the same period, according to official statistics, lost three officers and thirty-three soldiers killed and had thirteen officers killed and 213 wounded.

JAPAN IN TROUBLE.

Explanations Due for Acts of Mob Violence.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—The department of state has undertaken an investigation of two very disagreeable incidents that may contain in themselves the germs of serious trouble in the near future. They are the killing by Japanese of two sailors attached to the United States fleet on the Asiatic station.

The officials have been advised of the facts only, but following so closely on the terrible assault at Kobe last September of a Japanese mob upon the sailors of the Yorktown, these killings have aroused them to a determination to secure protection for our sailors in Japanese ports.

What Bryan is This?

Boston, December 21.—One hundred precincts out of a total of 191 give Curtis, Republican, 19,140; Goldstein, Republican, 17,475; Quincy, Democrat, 20,885; Riley, Bryan Democrat, 14,377. The Quincy men claim that he will carry the city by a majority larger than that of a year ago.

ENTICED FROM SCHOOL.

A Case Which Evokes Reminders of Charles Ross.

SHENYANG, Wn., December 21.—A mysterious woman in black and wearing a heavy dark veil yesterday enticed from school George Alfred Preston and Hattie May Preston, brother and sister, aged 11 and 9 years respectively.

They hurried away in a closed carriage, which started in a wretchedly fast direction, supposedly for Plymouth, where a train could be taken. The police and sheriff are investigating the case.

Guilty as Charged.

NORFOLK, Va., December 23.—The jury found the prisoner, John Anderson, alias John Anderson, guilty as charged in the indictment. This is the verdict returned in the famous Olive Parker case, the specific charge being the murder of Miss Saunders of the schooner Olive Parker, preferred by the dock. As the case stands, Anderson will have to hang. He received the verdict with apparent indifference. His counsel made a motion for a new trial.

A Steamer Lost.

SEATTLE, Wash., December 21.—The steamer Kamakura, which arrived here today, sixteen days from Yokohama, Captain Trent reported passing through very rough weather. He saw nothing of the steamer Pelican, long overdue. He thinks that the Pelican, with all on board, is lost.

Another Klondike Speculation. San Francisco, December 21.—A first-class ocean steamer, the Amur, has been purchased by the Klondike Mining, Trading and Transportation Corporation of Victoria, which was organized by Sir Charles Tupper. She will run to Sticks and St. Michaels.

They Favor Bryan.

SPRINGFIELD, December 21.—The legislature today adopted a joint resolution endorsing the selection of Colonel Charles Page Bryan of Illinois as Minister to China.

DURRANT'S LAST APPEAL

Will Be to Save His Neck.

Governor Budd to Be Solicited.

More Affidavits to Be Piled Up for the Condemned Murderer.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 21.—District Attorney Barnes was formally served with a notice today that next Friday the attorneys for W. H. T. Durrant, the condemned murderer, will appear in Judge Bahr's court and will ask for a change of venue, alleging that Judge Bahr is biased and prejudiced.

The service was in the nature of an affidavit sworn to by the elder Durrant. The affidavit is accompanied by a large portion of the affidavit filed by the prisoner when last in court.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 21.—(Later)—Attorney Louis P. Boardman today announced that the basis of the appeal to the governor would be in the case of Theodore Durrant. The attorneys for the condemned man realize the serious predicament in which they find themselves, and while it is very apparent that they themselves have little hope, they will use every endeavor to prolong their client's life.

The governor will be asked to grant a commutation of the death sentence to life imprisonment, and the principal grounds upon which the appeal is to be made will be a review of the conviction of the Blanche Lamont case with that of the Blanche Williams. In other words, according to Mr. Boardman, the governor will be asked to request the district attorney to bring the Blanche Williams case to trial, and the attorney thinks that a trial of that case will show the real murderer and result in the acquittal of Durrant.

Mr. Boardman said the arrangements for presenting the appeal to Governor Budd would be made in a few days, but it had not been decided whether Mr. Durrant should make a personal appeal, or not.

Another surprise came in the Durrant case this afternoon when the attorneys of the condemned man filed a notice with the district attorney that they would on next Tuesday go before Judge Bahr again and ask for a change of venue from the recent order of sentence on the ground that Bahr was prejudiced and that he had denied Durrant his rights of citizenship.

George Collins, the well-known authority on constitutional law, has been called in for consultation in relation to some federal question that Durrant's attorneys propose bringing.

FURIOUSLY INSANE.

He Wanted to Kill a United States Consul.

LONDON, December 21.—Charles Hambold, son of the well known patent medicine man, is locked up and is awaiting trial at Bow street police station on a charge of threatening to kill United States Consul General Osborne.

The physician thinks him insane. He has spent much time in London in recent years, living high when his family sent him money, and in deepest poverty between remittances. It is supposed that the Berlin adventures he describes are imaginary, and it is said that his father became insane before his death. An attempt was made to keep the affair a secret for the sake of Hambold's family.

GOLD DUST COMING.

It Is From Bonanza Creek and of Good Size.

St. Paul, December 21.—The general passenger department of the Great Northern road received today a consignment of gold dust and nuggets from the Seattle chamber of commerce, the total weight being 27 pounds 11 ounces, having a value of \$3985. The nuggets range from a nugget of 1 pound 6 ounces down to coarse grains of pinhead size and come from Bonanza Creek in the Klondike district and Minook creek in the Tanana district. The gold will be displayed here for a few days and then go East to the general agencies of the road for exhibition.

Victim of Fool Play.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 21.—The body of Jose Maria Surves, late property man of the Italian opera company, was found floating in the bay today. The pockets of his clothes were turned inside out and \$30 in gold, known to have been in his possession when he disappeared on December 6th, was gone. The dead man's friends fear that he was the victim of foul play.

National Banks Reduce Capital.

ROSTON, December 21.—The directors of the Fireman's National Bank have voted to reduce the capital stock from \$500,000 to \$300,000.

The Rover National Bank contemplates a reduction of its capital stock from \$1,500,000 to \$1,000,000 and other national banks it is believed, will take similar action.

The American Horse.

DEVER, December 21.—Charles E. Stobbs started tonight for Europe as a special envoy of this government, appointed by Secretary Wilson, of the agricultural department, to encourage the use of the American horse in the cavalry of Europe.

The Ueber Lynching.

CARSON, Nev., December 21.—Governor Sadler this afternoon expressed his intention of offering a reward of \$500 on the part of the state for the apprehension of the parties implicated in the Ueber lynching. A proclamation is now in the state printing office.

J. R. Franchino has secured a license to marry Jane Fubarrs. Both are natives of France and reside in Fresno, tomorrow afternoon.

THE LETTERS AND ARMOUR

Some Secrets of Wheat Trades.

May Wheat is Easy But Prices Low.

Rumors of Heavy Shipments Contracted for in January Next. The Outlook.

CHICAGO, December 21.—May wheat opened easy and about 1/16 lower than it closed yesterday at 92 1/2. Liverpool was only 1/16 higher at the opening. Chicago receipts were heavy, amounting to 570 cars, of which number 840 were of contract quality. Minneapolis received only 172 cars and Duluth received 118 cars as compared with a total of 382 last week.

This turned the general feeling toward the bull side again and the opening weakness soon gave place to considerable strength. This was followed by a reaction, and later the market turned strong again. This see-sawing was kept up all morning. The first advance was led by the bull clique and on several subsequent occasions, when the market appeared to require help, the same party was credited with being its rescuer.

There is a strong probability that by December 31st there will be 8,000,000 bushels of contract wheat in regular Chicago local. Rumors of vessel movements of 17,000,000 bushels of wheat early in January for account of the bill of exchange of Chicago were circulated on the local side in the session of the market, but were quite weak under realization by professionals. There was reason to believe also that the latter crowd could be made subservient.

The market gradually declined to 93 1/2 and closed at 93 1/2. There were further large deliveries of wheat this morning, Armour delivering 750,000 bushels and other dealers as much more. December closed at 1/4, where it would not have been closed had it not been for the fact that it was not a personal appeal, or not.

Corn was much quieter than yesterday, closing at 1/2 to 1/4 lower. Oats were steady, closing with a loss of only 1/4 to 1/8.

Trotter was weak. The heavy run of hogs was started quite free selling. At the close May pork was 17 1/2 lower, May lard 10c lower and May ribs 7 1/2 lower.

Chicago, December 21.—"A mere incident, I assure you. We are now practical men and have started quite free selling. A little what you call delivery, the necessary bushels are ready for delivery when the proper time approaches for the filling of these comparatively small contracts and there is an end of the affair so far as we are concerned."

Thus, with choice language, does P. D. Armour define his position in these, the closing days of one of the biggest wheat deals that has marked the history of the wheat trade in this country. It was a youthful opponent, in just an calm and confident in his expressions as the big provision man.

"Mr. Armour sold wheat," he declares, "and I bought of him. That is all. There was no battle, it was a common, almost elementary, business transaction. I shall sell the wheat which I have purchased when the need of the foreign market demands it. I shall sell it at the price which the market will bear, and I shall close the closing chapter of my part of the story."

These statements, coming from the principals in the December wheat deal, have caused much comment in board of trade circles. Will Joseph Leiter make a profit in the round four million bushels of wheat which have been placed in his hands by the provision man, is now the question.

The report is going the rounds that the wheat affair was productive of results in the wheat market. It was a combine. In many minds the rumor was given credence. The manipulation of the local market by Leiter agents pulling the wires from the Liverpool end recited over and over. This idea, however, is ridiculed by the majority of traders.

Some members of the board say that Leiter has received 5,000,000 bushels of the cereals. Other places the figures are 10,000,000 while the most conservative are willing to admit that half the latter amount is nearer the correct estimate. Mr. Leiter asserts that just as much of this will go abroad as the foreign market calls for "they pay for it."

"Some folks on the board think I can't transport grain eastward by rail without a loss, do they?" said Mr. Leiter. "Well, possibly they can't, but I am going to play out my end of the game along my own line and they differ with these prophetic considerations."

IRRIGATION DISTRICTS.

Another Decision in Favor of the Wright Law.

SAN DIEGO, December 21.—In the emperor court today Judge Torrance rendered a decision of considerable importance to persons interested in the irrigation districts.

The action was entitled "The People by the attorney-general on the relation of Carlos Otero against the Linda Vista Irrigation district." The action was brought to have the district disorganized and the grounds for complaint were various alleged irregularities in its formation. To all of these the defendant demurred.

This demurrer, Judge Torrance today sustained, holding that the action was barred, first by the statute of limitations and second by the decree of the supreme court upholding the validity of the Wright law, under which the Linda Vista district was organized.

Will Plead Insanity.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 21.—The first evidence in the defense of Clara Fallmer was offered today and insanity was the phase of it that her attorneys sought to bring out in strong relief. Many witnesses were examined, and it is possible that the case will close tomorrow afternoon.

WOLCOTT OF THE WEST

Addresses the New Englanders.

Annual Festival in New York City.

"Westerners are Americans to a Proportion Far Greater Than in the East."

NEW YORK, December 22.—The ninety-second annual festival of the New England Society of the City of New York was held at Delmonico's tonight. Four hundred members of the society and their friends, including many distinguished men, were present. Among those who sat at the guests of honor table were: J. P. Morgan, Joseph Choate, General Wesley Merritt, James Whitcomb Riley, Richard Olney, Senator E. O. Wolcott, Governor Frank Black, Senator George F. Hoar, President Charles W. Eliott, General Nelson A. Miles and Mayor William L. Strong. The dinner was made up of good old New England dishes and during the dinner a quartet, assisted by the greater number of these present, sang popular airs.

Senator Wolcott addressed the assembly, beginning with a humorous reference to the political resignation with which the exiles from New England bore their banishment; then spoke of an alleged desire of the Canadian government to acquire the state of Maine and portions of New Hampshire and Vermont in exchange for territory in Western Canada. Serious thought on the subject of possible cession of a part of New England, Mr. Wolcott said, brought "a realization of what it would mean to this people to face the possibility of changing, by the shadow of a hair, the contour of these states, or the sacrifice of a chip of its native granite, however barren."

He continued: "Not only does this sentiment pervade the land, but we can at times be developing an increased notion to invite some other country to differ with us in order that we may demonstrate our aggressiveness."

In certain directions our differences are crystallizing and not dissimulating. For more and more generations we have waited for the day when parties would divide solely on national issues, and when the old sectional issues, growing out of the war and the race problem, would be buried. The time came. The parties met on broad, economic question and lo, we emerge from the contest threatened with another bitter sectional division. The far west, largely the child of the east, and guided by its blood, grows to have a special agent of the war department and will be ordered to proceed with all diligence to Lapland to buy the animals and arrange for their shipment to the United States.

The announcement that the war department is in no means committed to any one route in the effort to reach the Klondike country has caused persons interested in various routes to advance the claim of their respective sections. The Spokane Chamber of Commerce has sent Frederick R. Marvin, an energetic newspaper man of that town, as its representative to urge the superior facilities of the overland route northward from Spokane.

This is the route the agents laid down by the agents of the Western Union years ago when they sought to lay a telegraph line to Behring straits. Mr. Marvin has stated in the war department that the route is still clear, that through the dense northern forests there is a trail 150 feet broad affording easy passage for draft animals, and that the feasibility of the route in winter is proved by the fact that for many years it has been traversed by numerous prospectors while the absence of heavy grades ensures the capacity of animals to carry large loads. Secretary Alger is asked to delegate some of the many officers now at Spokane to report upon the advantages of the route.

"The west is not decadent; its views are of men virile, industrious and genuine and their beliefs are honest. They are not the views of a generation we have inherited. They are patriotic men. There is in the whole far west hardly a northerner born who was old enough to go to the war whom you will not see in the ranks of the nation's army."

And men who would no more dream of quarreling with their fellow citizens than of formulating their financial views than they would of entrusting the man of whom they bought a shotgun with the command of the armies of their country, are naturally inclined to fear that in this part of the national policy there is a tendency to assume that the possession of great wealth means necessarily the possession of great wisdom.

"The century now ending has been full of growth and freedom, all free. A continent's width may divide us, but the same flag greets us at the dawn, the forty-five stars all blazoned alike on its azure field, all yours and all ours. In days of peace, as in time of war, the altar of freedom is an altar of sacrifice and, please God, we will start the new century on its journey to the stars laden with the hopes and aspirations of a happy and a united people."

Award Against the United States.

WASHINGTON, December 23.—The findings of the British-American commission, chosen to assess the damages for seizures of British ships in Behring sea, have been received by the state department and the British embassy. The strictest reticence is maintained, however, on the general character of the findings, though it is admitted that the total award against the United States is \$64,000, which includes principal and interest.

Lux Will Contest Settled.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 22.—Stipulations were filed today by attorneys in the case agreeing to the final dismissal of the contest of the will of the late Miranda W. Lux, whose husband was one of the founders of the firm of Lux & Miller.

RELIEF FOR YUKON MINERS

Alger Preparing to Send Food.

Will Purchase Six Hundred Reindeer.

An Ample Supply of Condensed Food Can Be Had on Short Notice.

WASHINGTON, December 22.—Captain Brainerd of the subsistence department of the army, arrived in Washington this morning, and although Secretary Alger is confined to his home by a severe cold, he went to his office and had a conference with him regarding the relief of the miners in the Yukon. Responses are coming in to the secretary's inquiry as to the amount of condensed food preparations that can be had at short notice. Generally they indicate that an ample supply can be had at reasonable rates if contracts be made at once.

General B. Merriam, who has been changed by Secretary Alger with the selection of the military guard to be sent out with the relief expedition, has telegraphed the necessary that he has selected Major L. H. Rucker, Fourth cavalry, to proceed to Alaska and make a reconnaissance on the passes leading from the head of the Lynn canal. He reports that the officer, who has already started from Fort Walla, Wash., by his experience as a quartermaster and cavalryman, is well fitted for the duty and is also physically able to endure the hardships of the trip.

Nothing has been heard from Mr. Kjelman, the reindeer herder now in Lapland, in answer to the directions of Secretary Alger respecting the selection of 600 reindeer for transportation to Alaska, so Dr. Jackson has been made a special agent of the war department and will be ordered to proceed with all diligence to Lapland to buy the animals and arrange for their shipment to the United States.

The announcement that the war department is in no means committed to any one route in the effort to reach the Klondike country has caused persons interested in various routes to advance the claim of their respective sections. The Spokane Chamber of Commerce has sent Frederick R. Marvin, an energetic newspaper man of that town, as its representative to urge the superior facilities of the overland route northward from Spokane.

This is the route the agents laid down by the agents of the Western Union years ago when they sought to lay a telegraph line to Behring straits. Mr. Marvin has stated in the war department that the route is still clear, that through the dense northern forests there is a trail 150 feet broad affording easy passage for draft animals, and that the feasibility of the route in winter is proved by the fact that for many years it has been traversed by numerous prospectors while the absence of heavy grades ensures the capacity of animals to carry large loads. Secretary Alger is asked to delegate some of the many officers now at Spokane to report upon the advantages of the route.

MANY INJURED.

Stage Coach Struck by a Train.

THIRTY-SIX OCCUPANTS OF THE VEHICLE SCATTERED IN ALL DIRECTIONS.

NEW YORK, December 22.—Twenty persons were injured, three perhaps fatally, at a grade crossing on the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroad between Passaic and Delaware, N. J., tonight. They were in a stage which was struck by a train. That any of them escaped is regarded as miraculous.

All the victims are employed in Wolcott & Aldrich's mill at Delaware, about two miles from Passaic. They rode to and from their work in a big covered stage. There were thirty-six persons crowded into the stage tonight. The party relieved the monotony of the trip by singing. It was not until the horse was on the track that the engine was seen by the driver.

The driver struck his horses sharply with the whip and they leaped forward, then stopped abruptly as the gate closed on the other side of the track. The locomotive struck the stage almost in the middle, hurling it several feet ahead and then struck it again, throwing it from the track. With the second blow of the locomotive the occupants of the stage were scattered in all directions.

Footpads in San Jose.

SAN JOSE, December 23.—An attempt was made by highwaymen last night to hold up D. J. Jones of 511 Golden Gate avenue, San Francisco, who is visiting here. He was passing through the Normal grounds when two men leveled a pistol at him and ordered him to "hands up." Mr. Jones raised a mighty scream and dashed off like a flying deer and continued the scream and flight until safely away, eventually landing at the Central station where he told his story. No trace of the men could be found as they had evidently given up pursuit in disgust.

TWO BIG FIRES IN ONE DAY

Chicago and Cleveland the Sufferers.

Natural Gas Explodes With Awful Results.

The Loss at Cleveland Will Be Nearly \$1,000,000—Exciting Scenes.

CHICAGO, December 22.—Fire broke out shortly after 4 o'clock today in the basement of the five-story building at 104 Madison street, the first floor and basement of which were occupied by the Tosesti Cafe and Restaurant Company and the second floor by the billiard parlor of Fran Matusky. A crowd of people gathered on the sidewalk in front of the building to watch the work of the firemen.

About one dozen policemen were busily engaged in pushing back the throng when a terrific explosion of natural gas took place. The building was badly wrecked, the windows, window gratings, sidewalk lights and manhole covers were hurled into the air and fell among the crowd. Dozens of persons were thrown from their feet and twenty-three were injured.

Of these Police Captain Thomas O'Connor was the only one seriously hurt. He was burned about the head, face and body, and may die. The others who were injured sustained burns about the head and face and more or less painful bruises.

The explosion caused a wild panic in the street, and in the frantic rush for safety many people were thrown down and trampled upon. That many were not killed and many more injured was little short of a miracle.

Matusky's billiard parlors were filled with players when the explosion came, and the men who had paid little or no attention to the small blaze in the basement, appreciated the situation at its proper value when the windows were falling in the street and plaster began to come down from the ceiling. The crash in the street was duplicated by the excited billiard players, as they plunged down the stairs for safety and into the outer air.

Many of them escaped by the stairs, some took to the fire escape and others who were late or who deliberated as to the best way of escape were taken out by the firemen. The fire spread through the building with great rapidity after the explosion, and within ten minutes it was blazing fiercely. Call after call for additional engines was sent by Chief Sweeney, but the fire could only be reached in front and rear, and was difficult of access. The severe weather caused much of the water to freeze, and within an hour the building resembled an iceberg with a furnace in its interior.

The burning building is within fifty feet of the intersection of Dearborn and Madison streets, where the loops of the West Side and North Side canals meet, and the fire broke out until after midnight traffic was entirely suspended on both lines.

The loss is estimated at \$125,000, of which \$50,000 will fall on the Tosesti Company, \$30,000 on Matusky and \$15,000 on Morris Rosenfeld, the owner of the building.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, December 23.—Fire broke out in the business center of the city at 5 o'clock this afternoon and, fanned by a high north wind, destroyed property worth over half a million dollars. The Power block on Franklin street, owned by J. B. Perkins, six stories high, and made of brick, was consumed, and the second story and the rear of the Wilshire block, six stories high, owned also by Mr. Perkins, and fronting on Superior street, was burned. The fire started by the explosion of a large can of kerosene in the third story of the Power block, John & Company in the Power building. Windows were blown out and several employees escaped with difficulty.

SCENE IN COURT.

A Surprise Sprung on a Swift Witness.

OAKLAND, December 23.—There was a sensation this afternoon during the progress of the trial of Clara Fallmer, accused of the murder of her lover.

Judge Ogden ordered Frank Thompson into custody for admitting that he had sustained important testimony in the defendant. He was not held as District Attorney Snook refused to proceed against him.

Other witnesses testified against the character of the prisoner, and several physicians swore that she was insane. The case was continued until next Tuesday.

Fell Over a Cliff.

SALINAS, December 23.—Massimo Pizzoni, a young ranchman, started on horseback after dusk to drive some cows in the country. He was rough and billy, and the young man not returning, a search for his horse and rider was made. His horse was found, lying near the horse, with its back broken.

NATIONAL BANK FAILURE

One of the Strongest in Philadelphia.

The "Record" Newspaper is Involved.

Enable the Indebtedness to Be Met.

PHILADELPHIA, December 23.—A sensation was created in this city today by the announcement of the suspension of the Chestnut Street National Bank, regarded as one of the strongest financial institutions in the city. The suspension carried with it the closing of the Chestnut Street Trust and Savings Fund Company, doing business under the state banking laws. William M. Bigler, publisher of the Philadelphia Record, is president of both companies, and the same men, with one exception, act as officers and directors.

The first information the public received that the banks were in trouble was in the form of a notice posted this morning on the door of the building occupied jointly by the two concerns, signed by National Bank Examiner William M. Hart, to the effect that the Chestnut Street National Bank had closed its doors pending an investigation of its affairs. No statement of assets and liabilities is available, but it is stated that the deposits of the Chestnut street bank amounted to \$1,700,000, of the trust company to \$1,300,000.

Mr. Singler, who has a brief statement tonight in which he said: "We are working to secure the indebtedness of the two banks, so that they can go into voluntary liquidation and thus avoid a receivership."

In this connection Deputy Comptroller of the Treasury George M. Coffin, who was sent here from Washington by Comptroller Echele today, says: "The matter of putting the Chestnut bank into voluntary liquidation has been taken up by Philadelphia men of great financial ability. Their first step will be to ascertain the value of the assets of the bank. They must first be satisfied that there is a value sufficient to warrant them in assuming the indebtedness."

Mr. Coffin will remain here several days, aiding the men who have taken upon themselves the task of extricating Singler from his financial difficulty. These gentlemen are in consultation tonight and the belief is strong that they will provide the funds necessary for the voluntary liquidation of the two banks.

It was known for some time in banking circles that Mr. Singler's banks were in trouble, and the national bank examiner, it is said, was aware of the condition of affairs.

Last night a number of leading bank officials of the city held a conference lasting until nearly 8 o'clock this morning, considering the matter of raising sufficient money to relieve Mr. Singler's financial straits. It was understood that the proposition to loan \$2,000,000 preferred stock of the Philadelphia Record had been practically agreed to when the discovery was made that because of the involved condition of the trust company's financial trouble, this sum would not be within several hundred thousand dollars of the amount required.

Negotiations were therefore declared off and the banks are expected to fail. Now it is hoped that the committee which began tonight where the former one left off will succeed in successfully adjusting the finances and thus permit the banks to pay depositors dollar for dollar.

The net earnings of the Record last year are said to have been \$249,000, more than sufficient to pay dividends on a sufficient sum to pay all of Mr. Singler's indebtedness to the bank. Statements of the cause of the failure current here agree with that made by Comptroller Echele at Washington today, that it was due to the loss of much money by Mr. Singler in his unsuccessful speculative paper mill at Elston, Md., one of the largest in the country. This statement placed the sum then involved at nearly \$1,000,000.

Gold Standard for India.

CALCUTTA, December 23.—The Bengal chamber of commerce has sent an address to the government, in which it says that the banks have arrived to adopt the gold standard, pointing out that in four years since the mints were closed, leaving India without a currency system, asserting that the suspension is harmful for trade and urging the government to discuss any measures which it may have in contemplation.

Portuguese Colonists Massacred.

LISBON, December 23.—An official dispatch from St. Paul de Loanda, Portuguese Lower Guinea, says that the natives of the Humbo Plateau in the Portuguese colony of Angola have murdered a Portuguese officer, a sergeant and twelve men. Reinforcements have been sent from St. Paul de Loanda.

Paid in Full.

ST. LOUIS, December 21.—George J. Fritsch, president of the Fritsch Furniture Company, and one of the leading business men of South St. Louis, committed suicide today. He was dependent upon inability to pay pressing creditors.

Royal makes the

FRESNO WEEKLY REPUBLICAN

Fresno, Fresno County, California.

By the Fresno Republican Publishing Co.

J. W. BROWN, Editor and Manager.

The Great Newspaper of Central California.

Suggested Circulation. - The Most News.

Weekly Republican, six months, by mail, \$1.50.

Daily Republican, one year, by mail, \$3.00.

Daily Republican, six months, by mail, \$1.50.

Do not fail to attend the poultry show.

The advantages of a local factory and

cheap ice are not to be apparent in December

as they will be in July and August.

The rumor that the Society for the

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals intended

to prevent the superiors from docking themselves is incorrect.

Fresno's initial poultry show will

open the eyes of hundreds of people to

the importance of this growing industry

and the superiority of fine bred fowls

over the common varieties.

Judge Cook of San Francisco has de-

cided that the slot machine is not

lotteries in the eyes of the law. If this

defect in the legal vision is incurable,

there still remains the right to put a

license upon these swindling machines

that will reduce their demoralizing effect

to a minimum.

It is announced that Kansas will send

an exhibit to the Omaha exposition

two carloads of cancelled mortgages that

have been paid during the year. It

should not be permitted. In their day

of deep distress some regard should be

paid to the lacerated feelings of the

calamities.

Representative Wheeler of Alabama

desires that the salaries of all offi-

cials be scaled down 25 per cent. "So

long as the gold standard is maintained

in this country," Mr. Wheeler said,

it should not be permitted. In their day

of deep distress some regard should be

paid to the lacerated feelings of the

calamities.

The Republican congratulates the

Poultry Association upon the assured

success of their first exhibit, the enter-

prise displayed by the association being

all the more notable because of the fact

that no admission is charged to the

show. Everybody interested can see

this magnificent display of fine fowls

without cost.

The raid on the Chinese lotteries Sunday

afternoon again demonstrates the

fact that the police are not powerful

enough to deal with the illegal business

they really desire to put a stop to it.

On former occasions policemen have shown

their ability to drive the lottery busi-

ness to nearly out of existence that all

power for was comparatively small, but

the trouble has been that all such

efforts have been short-lived. The Chinese

lotteries can be suppressed, but will they

be?

The San Bernardino Times-Index notes

the arrival at the Santa Fe company's

depot in that city of a "handomely

equipped chair car, lighted by elec-

tricity," which is to be used on the

road to southern California. Up here,

where we have no railroad competition,

the Southern Pacific does not deem it

necessary to provide its patrons with

the conveniences enjoyed by travelers in

the east. However, the day is rapidly

approaching when Uncle Collis will

have to change his policy of charging

all the traffic with bearing and giving as

little as possible in return.

The tremendous news comes from

Boston that Germany's naval expedi-

tion to the Orient is in fact directed

at the United States and not at China.

The Kaiser is said to have designs upon

Samoa and Hawaii, and also contem-

emplates the seizure of Alaska as a

cut off from communication with the

Yukon gold fields. After having carried

out this program Germany might take

a little else off the northern part of

Maine, east of the whole of Florida

and part of southern Texas. The United

States will then present a figure that

will be the delight of geometers, and

whatever it may be to its inhabitants.

Since Judge Carroll Cook of San

Francisco has declared that the nick-

el-in-the-slot machine is not a lottery

and does not therefore come under the

provisions of section 819 of the penal

code, these miserable devices are again

running wide open in the Bay City. The

only way to reach them would seem to

be the imposition by the supervisors of

a heavy license tax. This has had the

result of greatly reducing their number

in Fresno, and the plan would un-

doubtedly work as well in San Fran-

cisco. If the tax were still higher here

it would phase out still better; in fact,

we should like to see all of them taxed

out of existence.

Suppose for one moment that Super-

visor Manly were a Republican and,

following an illegal precedent had got

himself into a very serious difficulty

with his constituents, involving several

hundred dollars earned by them in do-

ing road work at his suggestion. What

would the *Expositor* be doing to him

at this time? Not a thing but declaring

that he is a scheming scoundrel who

ought to be lynched for leading the poor

foolish into a trap. And yet there is

every reason to believe that Supervisor

Manly has acted in perfect good faith,

and while the predicament is a serious

one both for himself and the citizens

who have done the work and are unable

to get their pay, no man will believe that

the supervisor is intentionally at fault.

The article from the *Selma Enterprise*,

advocating the building of a bond-

ward from this city to the south line

of the county at Kingsburg, was copied

by the *Republican* and credited to the *Selma**Enterprise*. That error is hereby cor-rected, and the *Republican* will further

assist in the proposition, that while

a large outlay of money is

not possible at present, the project

as outlined by the *Selma Enterprise*

is a thoroughly meritorious one and

is entitled to consideration among the

earliest improvements of that character

to be made by the county. It is un-

questionably better to spend a great

part of the money raised for road pur-

poses in building substantial, permanent

highways, than to follow the old method

of sinking it in repairs upon

roads that cannot be made decent high-

ways by following a system of annual

repairs to the end of time.

A LITTLE ENLIGHTENMENT.

The afternoon paper calls the atten-

tion of the *Republican* to the followingfrom the *Visalia Times*:

"But now that we have your eye, will

you please take the time to tell us what

you think of McKinley and Gage? Do-

you think of the Cleveland financial policy,

which caused you to have a competitor call at

your door about two years ago? You

can remember, no doubt, how you

used to shoulder every line of the *Visalia*and *Enterprise* papers, and how sincereand honest was the *Enterprise* in its

salvation of the country dependent

upon the free coinage of silver. Now

Secretary Gage, with the approval of

the President, comes out and says it is

his desire to 'commit the country' thor-

oughly to the gold standard. When

you enlighten us on this subject we may

have something to say about questioning

whether we are not hurt, etc."

Overlooking the cheek of such a ques-

tion coming from a newspaper that was

one of the most ardent defenders of

Cleveland's gold-silver policy and bond

graduated schemes, the *Republican* will

say in reply that it does not indorse the

financial plan outlined by Secretary

Gage, and as it is practically certain

that it will not be approved by congress

there is no occasion to be seriously dis-

turbed by it. The proposition of the

President to protect the reserve by re-

quiring gold to be paid for greenbacks

exchanged for gold is decidedly better

than the Gage plan, but as this sugges-

tion will meet with opposition from the

radical element of both the gold and sil-

ver forces it is not probable that this

legislation can be effected. In fact, owing

to the division of all parties regarding

the financial problem and the certain op-

position of both Democrats and Populists

to any measure which the *Republican*

may formulate, there is very little prob-

ability that any important legislation on

that question will be effected by the

present congress. This will undoubtedly

prove true unless there is an unexpected

change in sentiment during the next few

months.

As to the policy of the *Republican*

party, announced in its last national

platform, of maintaining the gold stand-

ard until such time as the concurrence

of other nations may make a bimetallic

standard possible, its wisdom cannot

be seriously questioned. That is the

policy of all the financial nations of the

world, and also the earnest bimetallics

admit that even so strong a government

as the United States cannot safely un-

dertake to change it alone. The absti-

nence of them concede that it would involve

a probable change from the gold to the

silver standard—a change which the

most radical bimetallics look upon with

apprehension, however much it may be

favored by free coinage advocates.

Notwithstanding the fact that the

most prosperous are ever known in this

country was under the single gold stand-

ard, and that conditions are steadily

improving without a change of that

policy, the *Republican* still believes, as

it has believed in the past, that the

ideal monetary policy is that of the

double standard, by which gold and

silver coined at a fixed ratio will be the

universal money. It believes that the

prosperity of all nations would be en-

hanced by such policy, and that sooner

or later it will be established. In the

meantime, however, the United

States must make the best of conditions

as they exist, and the *Republican* is not

prepared to believe that better condi-

tions can be found by changing from the

now practically universal gold standard

to the silver standard, which prevails

only in a few third rate countries. To

say the least of it, such an experiment

would be a dangerous one, and does not

involve the question of bimetallicism.

Regarding the attitude of *Republican*

papers on this question during the

Cleveland administration, it is very gen-

erally misrepresented. The utter sub-

servency of that administration to Wall

Street as shown by its illegal and dis-

graceful bond syndicate schemes and its

persistent efforts to discredit and beat

down silver was loudly denounced, but

a majority of *Republicans* at that time

were advocates of bimetallicism rather

than free coinage by this government

alone. It is true that the belief in this

government's ability to establish free

coinage alone was much more wide-

spread than it is now, and new-

spapers as well as individuals have

changed their opinions in that particular,

but it certainly does not lie in the

months of such advocates of Cleveland

gold-bug and defenders of bond syn-

dicate steals as the *Visalia Times* and*Fresno Expositor* to meet at a change of

opinion in that respect.

GENERAL LEE WALLACE believes that

the Japanese are anxious for a trial of

strength with the United States, and

that the annexation of Hawaii by this

government will furnish them with a

pretext. Japan may have become some-

what bumptious since its defeat in China,

and may not like the idea of our annex-

ing the Sandwich Islands, but the im-

mense events that are occurring at its

very door will require its close attention

for some time to come. It had already

a dangerous neighbor in Russia, which

had secured footholds at Port Arthur

and in Corea, and now it has another bad

neighbor, Germany, whose land hunger

is as great as Russia's. If Japan cultivates

the friendship of the United

States, where, until recently, it was

looked upon with favor, it is well

served some of our good will by injur-

ious bluster, but it will not be a dif-

ficult matter for it to regain what it has

lost in this respect. In the meantime

let the little brown men industriously

drill their army, equip it with the latest

arms and strengthen their navy. Who

would remain free with the Russ and

Tanton as neighbors must be ready to

fight for liberty.

The effect therefore of all the backing

and filling on the pool room license has

been to collect the back money law, to

collect a \$300 quarterly license, and to

re-establish the \$15 a day rate. Inas-

much as the reduction has been de-

fected, the \$300 paid in for a license will

be applied as an advance payment on

the day rate. *The Expositor*.

The "effect therefore" does not appear

to be particularly unenlightening up to

date, except to the pool room gamblers

and their friends. The final decision

not to reduce the license is eminently

satisfactory.

The *Stockton Mail* says that the Bryan

Democracy is not in favor of silver

monometallism. Why is it, then, that

more than half the arguments in favor

chronic constipation, and was finally cured by using DeWitt's Little Early Riders, the famous little pills for all stomach and liver troubles. Dr. C. Padlock, druggist, 1720 Mariposa street.

IN THE HALLS OF CONGRESS

Conference on the Miners' Relief Bill.

The Senate and the Tax on Beer.

Mr. Hoar Asks That the Liquor Question Be Dealt With Honestly.

WASHINGTON, December 17.—The house today completed the consideration of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, excepting the paragraph relating to civil service. By agreement the debate on this latter paragraph will go over until after the holidays. Two amendments were adopted. The bill as reported abolishes the army office at Deadwood, S.D., and the mine at Carson, Nev., and New Orleans, La. The representatives from the two former states made a vigorous and successful effort to continue the appropriations for Deadwood and Carson City. The appropriation committee was beaten in each instance.

The house then went into committee of the whole and resumed consideration of the legislative, executive and judicial bill. A few minutes later the committee rose informally and on Mr. Cannon's motion disagreed to the senate amendment to the bill for the relief of the miners on the upper Yukon and agreed to a conference. Messrs. Cannon of Illinois, Newberry of Ohio and Sawyer of Texas were appointed conferees.

Mr. Cox, Democrat of Tennessee, spoke of Secretary Gage's testimony before the banking and currency committee as a frank statement of the position of the administration. He had avowed his adherence to the gold standard as against bimetalism, and upon alcohol was designed to uphold and perpetuate that standard.

On motion of Mr. Mercer, Republican of Nebraska, a bill was passed to increase the cost of the government buildings at the National Exposition \$12,500, and the cost of the government exhibit.

The speaker appointed Mr. Barham, Republican of California, chairman of the committee on mileage, and 4.50 per cent the house adjourned.

WASHINGTON, December 17.—A spirited debate was precipitated in the house today by the submission by Mr. Platt of Connecticut of the special committee of the senate and house appointed to investigate the use of alcohol in the arts. It developed that a wide divergence of opinion exists among senators as to the practicability, from the point of view of government revenue, of reducing the present rate upon alcohol to 10 cents per gallon. Mr. Hoar of Massachusetts, who favors such a reduction, expressed the opinion that if congress would lay aside political considerations and deal with the financial question independently and honestly by the imposition of an additional tax of a dollar a barrel on beer, the question of the government's revenue would take care of itself.

Mr. Vest strenuously opposed any additional tax on beer.

A joint resolution accepting the invitation of Norway to participate in an international fisheries exposition next year was passed.

At the suggestion of Mr. Hawley, chairman of the military affairs committee, the bill passed by the house for the relief of the miners in the Klondike region was taken up at once. The senate bill was rejected by a vote of 100 to 91, and a conference was ordered, with Messrs. Hawley, Carter and Ockler as conferees.

A bill providing for the erection of a public building at Tacoma and appropriation of \$250,000 for that purpose was passed.

One of the pension bills passed granted a pension of \$50 a month to Cassius M. Clay Sr. of Kentucky, a major-general in the United States army during the war of the rebellion. Mr. Payne of Indiana then presented the regular order of business, the consideration of the resolutions on the death of William Steele Holman, late representative from Indiana.

Contributors to his memory were paid in subsequent notices by Mr. Fairbanks of Indiana, Mr. Mills of Texas, Mr. Cockrell of Missouri, Mr. Fry of Maine, and Mr. Turpin of Indiana.

The resolutions of condolence were passed, and as a further mark of respect the session adjourned until tomorrow.

THE VERY LATEST

Kinetoscope Pictures of an Execution.

The Machine Takes 1800 Views on a Film for Exhibition.

KANSAS CITY, December 17.—William Carr, the child murderer, was hanged at the Clay county courthouse at Liberty this morning.

After the execution it became known that a thrifty photographer had been admitted to the enclosure with a cinematograph machine and that he had been permitted to photograph the closing incidents of this revolting tragedy in all its horrible details. The machine was in operation from the moment Carr appeared in the enclosure until the body was cut off. It is claimed that on one film 1000 feet, 1800 pictures were taken. An attempt will be made to exhibit these pictures throughout the country. When Carr was a prisoner in the county jail at Kansas City the same parties purchased him in a relic history of the murder into a photograph.

Postal Savings Banks Approved.

NASHVILLE, December 20.—When the American federation of labor met today a resolution relative to legislation on the postal savings bank system was presented by the committee on resolutions. The resolution, which favors the establishment of postal savings banks with the proviso that no national bank be established out, was adopted. A resolution expressing approval of the national movement for the partition of primary elections was adopted.

Took Carboic Acid.

WASHTON, Ind., December 20.—Edward F. Moon committed suicide today by drinking carboic acid. Moon was for many years a very wealthy merchant here, but lost his money in grain speculation.

GOOD NEWS FROM DAWSON

No Present Danger of Starvation.

Millions of Dollars in Plain Sight.

Winter Conditions Are Very Hard But Not Worse Than Anticipated.

SEATTLE, Wash., December 17.—A letter to the Associated Press from Skagway, Alaska, dated December 15th, gives the following additional news brought from Dawson by Joe Kastner and George McLaughlin of Helena, Mont., who left Dawson November 31. When they left Dawson they were accompanied by Pat Holland of Butte, Mont., and William King of Los Angeles, Cal. Each man had a sled and an outfit of about 140 pounds, which included provisions and blankets. After traveling 140 miles up the river Kastner and McLaughlin abandoned their sleds and with 100 pounds each on their backs continued their journey, leaving Holland and King behind. They had determined to stick to their sleds. George King of Flathead, Mont., was overtaken at Fort Valley by his sled being frozen, but he was being cared for.

Major Walsh will have to remain in his present quarters until the river is frozen sufficiently to permit him to continue his journey. Although the river was open all the way up, Kastner believed that it would be frozen solid, as the river was full of anchor ice. Between Fort Valley and Dawson Kastner saw six boats containing five men each floating down the river with the ice. Their position was dangerous in the extreme and it was impossible to render them any assistance.

Provisions at Dawson were to be had only from the recent arrivals who had come to escape prevailing prices. It was \$1 per pound for everything but flour, from a sack of flour to a pick or frying pan.

"Will there be starvation in Dawson this winter," he was asked.

Kastner said: "If the people are put upon rationing there will, in my opinion, be enough food to tide over the winter, or until supplies can arrive, and there will be no actual suffering from want of food."

Mr. Kastner went into the Klondike country to examine the old diggings with a view to working them. He found that the drifts filled with water, and were so saturated with ice that it was impossible to work them at present. He stated that fully one-third of the gold is lost by the methods employed in mining in the Klondike district. He estimated that the amount of gold to be taken out of the district this winter will be between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000. Ten millions could easily be taken out. But for the scarcity of light, candles and coal and the expense of transportation, he was trying to work them in complete darkness.

A COSTLY JOKE.

It Costs a Hired Hand His Life.

Mat Hennessy Pretends to Be a Chicken Thief and is Shot.

SACRAMENTO, December 17.—Word comes from Elk Grove tonight of a very sad affair on the ranch of Eben Owen, a few miles from there, resulting in the death of one of Owen's employees named Mat Hennessy.

As the report comes here Owen has been greatly annoyed at late by raids on his poultry house at night. Every evening his housekeeper informed him that there was a great commotion about the chickens and Owen got his gun and hastened to the hen house.

There he found Hennessy, the hired man, with a knife in his hand and a chicken in his hand. He fired at him and he was killed.

An old man did not descend Owen fired and the man dropped dead. It proved to be his own employee. It is said that Hennessy claimed the right to play a trick on Owen. The latter answered that he would not be tricked. He was shot in the morning. Harry Owen was asked by telephone to give the facts of the shooting, but he absolutely refused to talk about it.

THE VERY LATEST

Kinetoscope Pictures of an Execution.

The Machine Takes 1800 Views on a Film for Exhibition.

KANSAS CITY, December 17.—William Carr, the child murderer, was hanged at the Clay county courthouse at Liberty this morning.

After the execution it became known that a thrifty photographer had been admitted to the enclosure with a cinematograph machine and that he had been permitted to photograph the closing incidents of this revolting tragedy in all its horrible details. The machine was in operation from the moment Carr appeared in the enclosure until the body was cut off. It is claimed that on one film 1000 feet, 1800 pictures were taken. An attempt will be made to exhibit these pictures throughout the country. When Carr was a prisoner in the county jail at Kansas City the same parties purchased him in a relic history of the murder into a photograph.

Postal Savings Banks Approved.

NASHVILLE, December 20.—When the American federation of labor met today a resolution relative to legislation on the postal savings bank system was presented by the committee on resolutions. The resolution, which favors the establishment of postal savings banks with the proviso that no national bank be established out, was adopted. A resolution expressing approval of the national movement for the partition of primary elections was adopted.

Took Carboic Acid.

WASHTON, Ind., December 20.—Edward F. Moon committed suicide today by drinking carboic acid. Moon was for many years a very wealthy merchant here, but lost his money in grain speculation.

READY TO TAKE STOCK

Review of the Holiday Trade.

Wheat Exports Are Now Falling Off.

The General Business of the Year Surprisingly Large—Exports Increasing.

NEW YORK, December 17.—Broadstreet's tomorrow will say: A sensible quieting of demand of wholesale lines is reported as the holiday season and the annual stock-taking period approaches.

Chief among the favorable features of the week has been enlarged inquiry at higher prices for steel in various forms, accompanied by advance in the prices of courts most affected. A correspondingly heavy business has developed in pig iron and prices show but a slight shading in face of the current immense production. The wheat market has been less feverish and prices are practically unchanged from a week ago, while corn, oats and sugar are additions to the list of the products showing advance.

At the East trade in wholesale lines is quiet, but retail trade has been stimulated sufficiently to allow of a fair record of business in seasonable lines. Notable among favorable features is the improved inquiry at higher prices for several kinds of steel, especially billets and wire rods.

The approach of the holiday season has induced freer realizing on cotton by planters and others at the south and increased activity is noticeable in retail firms and among jobbers in seasonable goods.

Collections are slightly better in consequence, although the low price of the staple is a discouraging feature. Aside from price depression in its chief product, the southern business situation presents many encouraging features, notable among these being the active demand and firm order prices for Louisiana sugar and rice, and for tobacco.

Export trade on the Pacific coast, cotton and shipments of wheat, cotton and lumber are of large volume. Preparations for an immense Alaskan outfitting demand are being actively pushed, while seasonable trade holds its own.

What exports show a heavy falling off from recently preceding weeks, aggregating, as they do (flour included) \$4,600,000 bushels from both coasts through banks and direct to St. John, N. B., against 6,300,159 bushels in last week and 4,223,716 bushels a year ago.

Business failures show a rather smaller than recent and holiday totals aggregating 285 against 392 last week and 500 in the week a year ago.

Canadian failures this week numbered 43 against 23 last week, 49 in the week a year ago and 47 in 1895.

New York, December 17.—R. G. Dawd's weekly review of trade will say in its issue tomorrow: Close to its annual holiday the business of the year is surprisingly large. Payments through banks are again 2.5 per cent larger than in 1895, and the production of iron and woolen goods, boots and shoes is larger than ever before; exports of all past records and failures for two weeks have been the smallest for corresponding weeks in five years.

The treasury receipts show a steady increase for the first half of December over previous months, both in customs and in internal revenue, and heavy payments to the government on Union Pacific account caused but slight reticence in money markets with preparations for large cancellations of bonds. The most noteworthy news of the week is the rise in the price of wheat to \$1.10, 60 cents, the excess of exports in four months being \$229,213,401.

ROBED IN WHITE

How Two Murderers Went to Their Account.

Made Speeches and Held Religious Conversation on the Gallows.

ATLANTA, Ga., December 17.—Grady Reynolds and Bud Brooks were executed at Jefferson today for the murder of M. C. Hunt of Belton, Ga. Robbery was the motive. Brooks and Reynolds were moonshiners.

Reynolds negotiated with Hunt for the purchase of his stock of goods. Reynolds told Hunt the money was in the bank at Harroville and invited him to ride in a wagon with him. Midway Brooks joined them and the two committed the murder, robbed their victim of \$1200 in money and jewelry and buried the body. Reynolds was arrested, confessed and implicated Brooks.

After the ride to the gallows, a mixture of half a mile, they were robed in white and permitted to speak to the throng of 1000 people who packed around the gallows enclosure. On the gallows the two men held a brief conversation with each other, inquiring after the other's spiritual comfort.

Among the twenty men who saw the execution were three brothers of the murdered man.

NOT A LOTTERY.

The Nickel-in-the-Slot Machine Wins in Court.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 17.—Judge Carroll today decided that the nickel-in-the-slot machine is not a lottery and its use is not illegal.

The machine is not a lottery because it does not depend on chance for the result, but on skill. The player who drops the nickel in at the time it directly concerns.

DURRANT'S LAST MOVE

Seeks to Recover His Clothing.

The Request Is Promptly Denied.

Fears Entertained That an Improper Motive Lurks Behind the Application.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 18.—Wm. A. Durrant, father of the condemned murderer of Blanche Lamont, called at the district attorney's office today and asked to see Mr. Barnes. That gentleman was not in, however, but the chief assistant, Mr. Walter Blair, was, and to him Durrant, Sr., addressed himself. He said that now that the Blanche Lamont murder trial was over, and the judgment affirmed, with no possibility of its ever again finding its way into the courts, he supposed the police department had no further use for the prisoner's personal effects, which have been in keeping of the property clerk since April 14, 1895.

"I have been an order," said Durrant, Sr., "which I want you to O. K." So saying, he pulled a piece of paper from his pocket and handed it to Blair. It proved to be an order duly drawn, calling upon the property clerk of the police department to deliver up to Wm. A. Durrant, Sr. the following articles:

One cloak hat, one overcoat, one coat, vest and trousers, one complete set of under garments, one watch, chain and pocket, one hand book.

"I have been a Judge Babra," explained Durrant, "I asked him to sign the order and he has promised to do so if the district attorney will O. K. it."

"What do you want the things for?" asked Blair.

"There is a little money in the bank," said Durrant, "I want to get it out. We were badly in need of money."

"We are obliged to turn everything to account," was the dogged answer. "The things are of no use."

Blair shook his head. "I am very sorry," he said, "but it is not the question. The district attorney will never O. K. that order. You may come back when he is in and ask him. If you like, but I tell you he will not sign it. He will probably refuse to sign it."

"Until all is over, I am sorry," said Durrant, sadly.

"Yes, that's it," replied Blair. "At least until the case is finally disposed of."

"Oh, well, I'm obliged to you just the same. I did not think there would be any objection," said Durrant. Sr. walked sadly out.

The real motive for Durrant's request was the topic of discussion in the district attorney's office for his hour afterward. The consensus of opinion appeared to be that Durrant was acting up to his old trick. One to try to trick in the Blanche Lamont case and remove from eight some dangerous exhibit if the Minnie Williams case should go to trial; the other, to try the time in the internal revenue and heavy payments to the government on Union Pacific account caused but slight reticence in money markets with preparations for large cancellations of bonds. The most noteworthy news of the week is the rise in the price of wheat to \$1.10, 60 cents, the excess of exports in four months being \$229,213,401.

LAWSFORALASKA

An Omnibus Bill to be Prepared.

Objections Made to a Complete Territorial Organization at Present.

WASHINGTON, December 18.—The senate committee on territories today practically decided to enter upon the task of preparing an omnibus bill to cover the conditions in Alaska.

The general opinion of the committee seems favorable to the preparation of a new code of laws for the government of the territory and new regulations supplying a military force for it. There was on the other hand quite general opposition to a complete territorial organization, most of the members expressing themselves as opposed to granting the territory a delegate in congress or a legislative council.

The reason for this opposition is found in the uncertainty as to the permanence of the present conditions. Senators Thurston, Carter and White were appointed a sub-committee to investigate the question.

GETTING READY

The Western Passenger Association Program.

To Handle 250,000 Passengers for Alaska Without Cutting Rates.

CHICAGO, December 17.—A meeting of the lines of the Western Passenger Association will be held in the near future to consider rates and arrangements for the large amount of business that is expected to set in toward Alaska within a few weeks.

Some of the roads say that the total number of passengers to be handled for Alaska will amount to 250,000 and while some of them do not place the estimate as high as this, they agree that the traffic will be very heavy. To handle this business without any serious decrease in rates will be the effort of the western lines and just now they have a strong idea that they are going to be successful in the undertaking.

At the present time the situation regarding rates to South Pacific coast is very satisfactory, though it has been for many months. There are no cut rates in effect and so cheap tickets to be found on the market, and it is hoped by the western roads that the assistance of the transcontinental lines they will be able to maintain this condition.

WITHOUT PAYING DUTY

Canada Withdraws Her Exaction.

Miners' Outfits Go Free to the Klondyke.

Responsible Transportation Companies Soon to Be Established on the Yukon.

WASHINGTON, December 20.—A response has been received to the recent letter from Secretary Gage to the Canadian commissioner of customs, requesting information as to the bonding of miners' outfits through Canadian territory en route from Junction, Alaska, by way of the Chilkoot pass and the Yukon river to Circle City, Alaska. The commissioner says that the following regulations have been prepared to meet the case:

Imported goods, as above described, shall be reported to the Canadian customs house, Lake Park, and may be entered for exportation there in the usual form "in transit" in duplicate.

The goods may then be delivered without duty, to be carried to their destination out of Canada by any transportation company which has duly executed a bond in the form prescribed by the minister of customs for the due and faithful delivery of all packages carried by such supply and for the general compliance with the customs laws and regulations governing such traffic.

A duplicate of the entry in transit, duly signed and marked with the proper customs stamp, shall accompany each shipment of goods conveyed by a bonded carrier, so that the same may be returned to the customs house at Fort Yukon, with a certificate thereon as to the landing of the goods in the United States, or of their having passed outward from Canada within six months from date of entry.

If the goods when entered in transit for exportation are not delivered to be forwarded by a bonded carrier, as provided in the last preceding section, the duty thereon is to be deposited with the customs officer at Lake Park, subject to a refund of same at the port of Fort Yukon when the goods pass outward thereon, or upon the certificate of an officer of the United States or of the Canadian customs that the said goods have been landed in the United States within six months of the date of the entry in transit.

The duty deposited in each case is to be endorsed on the entry and certified by the customs officer in charge and the certificate so endorsed is to be delivered to the person making the deposit of duty.

A report of each entry in transit shall be forwarded by mail to the collector of the customs at Fort Yukon, for the collection of duties on the goods entered in transit and not duly exported.

Goods usually classed as travelers' baggage are to be passed free without entry.

Commissioner McLaughlin, in a letter accompanying these regulations, says that they are framed with the desire to confer the utmost facilities for the traffic in question, compatible with security to the revenue. He further says:

"Responsible transportation companies will be soon in operation and other passes down the Yukon river and its tributaries, in which case United States goods may go forward in bond to Alaska without payment of duties."

ANOTHER SENSATION.

A Constable Indicted in Connection With the Plyler Case.

SANTA CRUZ, December 17.—The grand jury created a sensation this afternoon by returning an indictment against Constable Joe Harverson for mayhem in connection with the Plyler case when Harrie was maimed.

Harverson was associated in business with Plyler. The latter says Harverson was not in the room when Harrie was maimed.

The same case for the same offense will go to the jury tomorrow.

AMERICAN HOPS IN DEMAND.

BAN FRANCISCO, December 20.—Within a day or two there will be shipped from Pleasanton, Alameda county, eighteen carloads, or 1800 bales of hops. This is the largest quantity of hops ever shipped from the hop yards of that place, which are the largest in the world. The total harvest there was 2400 bales, or 475,000 pounds, of cured hops. This entire crop has been sold to a single customer. The hop growers of Pleasanton, at a fancy price. This crop has averaged 1000 pounds to the acre. It has brought within a fraction of 20 cents a pound. The figure was \$90. The hop harvest and the distribution of \$20,000 to 2500 pickers, all of them of American lineage or citizenship.

DAVE JACKS DEFEATED.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 20.—A fight that began in the United States last night by the United States was decided today by Register Blackett and Dunn of the local office. It was the case of David Jacks, the Monterey gambler, and a local man named Daniel Reardon, who about a dozen other settlers. By this decision the rights of more than sixty men, women and children were declared in such a way as to make their roof trees secure for the remainder of their lives. The lot in dispute comprised about 800 acres. The decision is against Jacks, who claims the land by virtue of a tax title from the city of Monterey.

MR. BRYAN IN MEXICO.

MEXICO CITY, December 20.—President Huerta, of the Mexico, Guernavaca and Pacific railway, with a small party, accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Bryan to Cuernavaca today. The president's view of the valley of Mexico from the summit of the mountain range. A reception was given at the handsome apartments of the American club to-night by Mr. and Mrs. Bryan and the large attendance of ladies and gentlemen. There is no truth in the statement that Mr. Bryan attended Sunday's bull fight.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S "INSULTS."

MADRID, December 20.—The National private today a double headed article to the effect that the principal mission in life of General Weyler at the present moment is to defend the army and his command in Cuba against the "insults" alleged to have been continued in President McKinley's message and that he will energetically protect the mission of war against General Corrales, queen regent against the throne.

FRAUDULENT BOOMERS.

Seeking to Obtain Money for Indian Lands.

WASHINGTON, December 20.—Interior department officials are watching the operations of L. B. boomers who are making arrangements to enter lands of the Wichita, Iowa, Apache and Comanche Indian reservations in Oklahoma. A treaty for the opening of the latter is now pending before congress. Some of the Indians have been seen entering the boomers' camp, which has reached the department, in which admissions to membership are offered for sale at the rate of \$5 each. They have been scattered broadcast through the country. The agents are not to receive \$2 for each member enrolled.

The opinion is expressed at the department that the persons behind the scheme have no idea of being permitted to occupy the lands but that they will, after interest has been made of people in its case their operations. No particular rendezvous for the proposed "boomers" is indicated in the pamphlets received at the department.

The Indians are now being warned of the proposed movement and have been directed to call on the military to assist in preventing the forcible occupation of the lands. Commissioner Jones of the Indian office has issued orders to the Indian agent at the Indian country and is disposed to give little credit to the probability of an invasion of the lands, and says after an investigation of the report that there is nothing to be feared.

BRITISH WARSHIPS COMING.

SAN DIEGO, December 20.—The British gunboat Darius arrived this morning from Guaymas with all well on board. She stopped at Callao, Acapulco and San Francisco, and will leave after calling at Esquimalt Wednesday. From the reports of her officers the British squadron on this coast will be largely increased very soon. Commander Fleet was in the next morning, and the cruiser Wanderer, 3300 tons, is due here on her way north, and is accompanied by the torpedo destroyer Virago. The Phaeton is also on her way from England to Guaymas and will reach here in about two months, accompanied by another torpedo destroyer.

BULLS AND BEARS

Speculating Liberally in May Wheat.

Little Trading in the December Article—Heavy European Shipments.

CHICAGO, December 20.—Wheat opened a little under Saturday's closing prices. May started at 92 1/2 to 92 3/4. Under covering by shorts the slight decline was quickly covered, and the market during the next hour kept a little above the final quotations of the preceding session. Trade during the time referred to was not heavy and was almost entirely of a local professional character.

The opening decline was probably due to heavy receipts at Chicago, much of which was of contract grade, and this was apparently forgotten when it was seen that it did not keep buyers out of the market. Chicago received 518 cars, of which 217 were No. 1 northern spring and 55 cars of No. 2 red winter and 111, 500 bushels and 155 cars of wheat were ferried to receive the elevator. An addition of about 511,000 bushels was made to the contract stocks.

The total quantity shipped from all quarters to Europe and Asia in all of last week was 6,757,000 bushels against 6,165,000 the week before. The day's clearances of wheat and flour from Atlantic ports were 620,000 bushels. It was not until after the visible supply statement for the week was issued that the increase in the stocks found to be smaller than expected that the market gave very clear indication as to which side of the deal it would ultimately favor.

The close of the day's trading and the week's work was concluding, and the market was generally quiet. The day's clearances of wheat and flour from Atlantic ports were 620,000 bushels. It was not until after the visible supply statement for the week was issued that the increase in the stocks found to be smaller than expected that the market gave very clear indication as to which side of the deal it would ultimately favor.

The close of the day's trading and the week's work was concluding, and the market was generally quiet. The day's clearances of wheat and flour from Atlantic ports were 620,000 bushels. It was not until after the visible supply statement for the week was issued that the increase in the stocks found to be smaller than expected that the market gave very clear indication as to which side of the deal it would ultimately favor.

The close of the day's trading and the week's work was concluding, and the market was generally quiet. The day's clearances of wheat and flour from Atlantic ports were 620,000 bushels. It was not until after the visible supply statement for the week was issued that the increase in the stocks found to be smaller than expected that the market gave very clear indication as to which side of the deal it would ultimately favor.

The close of the day's trading and the week's work was concluding, and the market was generally quiet. The day's clearances of wheat and flour from Atlantic ports were 620,000 bushels. It was not until after the visible supply statement for the week was issued that the increase in the stocks found to be smaller than expected that the market gave very clear indication as to which side of the deal it would ultimately favor.

The close of the day's trading and the week's work was concluding, and the market was generally quiet. The day's clearances of wheat and flour from Atlantic ports were 620,000 bushels. It was not until after the visible supply statement for the week was issued that the increase in the stocks found to be smaller than expected

